



Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
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www.dmas.virginia.gov

MEDICAID MEMO

TO: All Pharmacies, Out-of-State Pharmacies, Physicians, and
Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) Participating in the
Virginia Medicaid Program

FROM: Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

MEMO Special
DATE 6/3/2005

SUBJECT: Termination of Erectile Dysfunction (ED) Drug Coverage for
Individuals Convicted of a Sex Offense – Effective As Of May 27,
2005

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you that, effective as of May 27, 2005, the Virginia Medicaid Program is no longer covering erectile dysfunction (ED) drugs for individuals convicted of a sex offense.

Governor Mark R. Warner signed an Emergency Regulation giving DMAS the authority to terminate this Medicaid benefit for convicted sex offenders, including 52 enrollees who have received ED drugs paid for by Medicaid. The Governor also directed DMAS to initiate appropriate administrative procedures to ensure that convicted sex offenders do not receive ED drugs paid for by Medicaid going forward.

A system edit was implemented on May 27, 2005, which informs pharmacists when an ED drug is not covered for a particular patient. This edit is designed to stop Medicaid from paying for ED drugs for convicted sex offenders. Pharmacists and physicians may contact DMAS to obtain more information on this particular edit.

DMAS will update its database regularly to add Medicaid recipients, who have been convicted of a sex offense, as they become known to DMAS.

ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option (ARS) to access information regarding Medicaid eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification information. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same

information and can be accessed by calling 800-884-9730 or 800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.

COPIES OF MANUALS

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at www.dmas.virginia.gov (***please note the new DMAS website address***). Refer to the Provider Column to find Medicaid and SLH Provider Manuals or click on “Medicaid Memos to Providers” to view Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates requested.

“HELPLINE”

The “HELPLINE” is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on state holidays, to answer questions. The “HELPLINE” numbers are:

1-804-786-6273	Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627	All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the “HELPLINE” is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid provider identification number available when you call.

PROVIDER E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

DMAS is pleased to inform providers about the creation of a new Provider E-Newsletter. The intent of this electronic newsletter is to inform, communicate, and share important program information with providers. Covered topics will include upcoming changes in claims processing, common problems with billing, new programs or changes in existing programs, and other information that may directly affect providers. If you would like to receive the electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-provider_newletter.asp.

Please note that the Provider E-Newsletter is not intended to take the place of Medicaid Memos, Medicaid Provider Manuals, or any other official correspondence from DMAS.